

BellSouth's petition asking the FCC to stop regulating broadband service could badly damage independent ISPs.

If this petition is granted, this would mean that the large phone companies would no longer be subject to regulatory review of their broadband pricing to independent ISPs. As a result, independent ISPs would have to individually negotiate pricing and the ability to interconnect, which would undoubtedly raise independent ISPs prices, and mine as a consumer as well in the long term.